**Department of social work, CUK**

**Extension activities in the neighbourhood communities in terms of impact and sensitizing the communities to social issues and holistic development during last five years**

Department of Social Work, CUK had conducted various extension activities focussing on various issues faced by the society in the neighbouring villages. The activities helped the students and the teachers to have realistic orientation of the society. Need based programmes were initiated based on the felt needs of the communities by conducting community assessment with the effective participation of the people to promote sustainable development. The intervention ranged from environmental sustainability, sustainable development, women empowerment, child development, adolescent development, youth development, elderly empowerment, tribal development and so on. Kandal Reforesting is one of the effective initiatives of the department working in the direction of environmental sustainability. Kandal forests in this area were quite efficient in preventing flood into the residential settings. The programme was conducted in collaboration with Ajanur Grama Panchayath. As the nodal Ministry for Drug Demand Reduction, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment conducts various awareness programmes on ill effects of Drug Abuse and other Social Defence issues in collaboration with National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), New Delhi in different parts of the country, the Department of Social Work, Central University of Kerala in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment conducted sensitization programme on causes and impact of drug abuse among school students, SHG members, panchayath members, college students and University students and school counsellors. The sensitization programme was very effective in conscientizing various stake holders. One more major milestone in preventing drug abuse is, three day workshop for school counsellors on de addiction counselling which could help the school to prevent drug abuse among the school children. The schools counsellor who have attended the training programme acquired skills and expertise t handle drug related issues and in the prevention of the problem. In the path of tribal development, the department had worked and rendered various services pertaining to tribes like health and hygiene awareness, child development programmes, kitchen garden programmes, cultural programmes etc. In order to Address the needs of Differently Abled Children, the department had worked in collaboration with BUDS schools in Kasaragod district to help the children and also to help the parents of these differently abled especially by providing psychological support and proper information and guidance. Women empowerment related programmes of the department like gender sensitization programmes, women’s health, legal aspects and its utilization and various other activities definitely made impact in the neighbouring villages to move in the direction of women empowerment.